

POLITBUREAU WEEKLY MEETING

The Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee has discussed a number of economic, social and cultural questions, as well as issues pertaining to Soviet foreign policy.

Examined were questions relating to the meeting scheduled for January 7-8 this year in Geneva between Andrei Gromyko and US State Secretary, George Shultz, in accordance with the Soviet-American agreement reached in principle on holding talks on nuclear and space weapons. A relevant decision was taken on USSR's position.

The Politbureau also approved the results of talks on further development of Soviet-Turkish relations and some international issues held in Ankara between Nikolai Tikhonov, on the one hand, and the Turkish President, Kenan Evren, and the Prime Minister, Turgut Ozal, on the other. The Politbureau emphasized the great significance of signing in Ankara the Long-Term Programme for the Development of Economic, Trade, Scientific and Technical Cooperation Between the Soviet Union and the Turkish Republic; the trade agreement for 1988-90, and a programme for cultural and scientific exchange, which provide a good basis for further strengthening of cooperation and good-neighbourly relations between the USSR and Turkey.

The Politbureau heard and approved reports presented by Mikhail Gorbachev on the visit of a delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet to Great Britain, and on discussions held with the British Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher, MPs, and other British statesmen, as well as representatives of public and business communities. It was specially noted that the provisions contained in the message sent by the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Konstantin Chernenko, to the British Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher, with regards to the Soviet Union's desire for a serious political dialogue with Britain, broader mutual understanding and cooperation on the basis of mutual advantage, serve the interests of lasting peace and security in Europe and the world as a whole.

Hope was expressed that efforts being made by the Soviet Union towards the solution of such vital issues as preventing the arms race from spreading into outer space, drastically reducing and subsequently eliminating nuclear arsenals, and removing the threat of nuclear war will find a realistic understanding and proper response on the part of Britain.

The Politbureau summed up results of activities of the Party's central bodies in 1984 and, taking this into consideration, outlined the priorities in Party, state and economic endeavours, as well as in the country's foreign policy, which the Politbureau and the Secretariat of the CPSU Central Committee are to tackle in 1985. Preparations towards the 27th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union will be given prominence in this work.

Just struggle of Palestinians

The Representative Extraordinary of the Palestine Liberation Organisation in the Soviet Union Yahya A. Habash recently held a press conference in Moscow at which he told Soviet and foreign journalists about the struggle of the Palestinians for their rights and about efforts being made at closing the ranks of the Palestine Resistance Movement. He noted that the PLO was the only legitimate representative of the Arab people of Palestine.

Yahya A. Habash has stressed the great importance of the support of the USSR and other socialist states for the just cause of the Palestinians.

Ballet in honour of Galina Ulanova

Warm applause greeted ballet dancer Galina Ulanova at the Leningrad Kirov Opera and Ballet Theatre where she first danced Juliet, Giselle and Raymonda, in honour of the jubilee of the brilliant Soviet dancer, the Leningrad ballet company, and the Russian ballet "The Fountain of Bakhchisarai". In which, fifteen years ago, Ulanova was the first to create the image of the valiant and inexorable Maria, whose character she portrayed as the contemporary put it, with remarkable feeling, conveying

the very spirit of Pushkin's poetry. Galina, the ballerina inspired the composer Sergei Prokofiev to write the ballet "Roméo and Juliet". In Leningrad I spent my childhood and adolescence, and my ideas about beauty and happy love shape, says Ulanova. Here, on the stage of the former Mariinsky Theatre, I danced nearly all the classical parts. It was a time of interesting quest and of a new approach to ballet. I am happy that I was part of that remarkable time.

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USSR-Poland: 40 years of diplomatic relations

On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the USSR and the Polish People's Republic the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the USSR Council of Ministers sent a telegram to Polish leaders. It states, among other things, that this important decision marked a historical turn in relations between our nations and laid the basic interests of both peoples.

The past forty years were marked by active development of all-round cooperation and friendship between our parties, countries and peoples.

Broad prospects for further development of bilateral cooperation are offered by the records reached at the highest level, the implementation of which we regard as a prime goal, the telegram points out.

Legal aid for gas victims

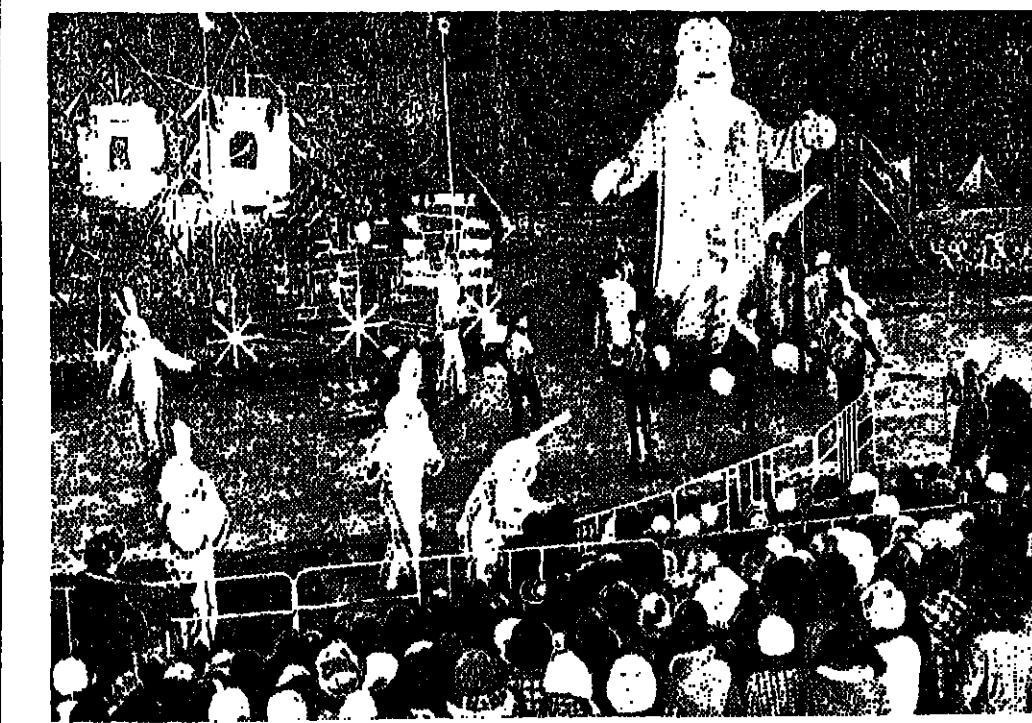
New Delhi. The Indian Government has set up a special committee to provide legal aid to victims of the tragic disaster at the factory of the American Union Carbide Corporation in the town of Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh State).

Justice Minister, H. R. Bhadrwal, said that the state has assumed all the legal expenses involved in compensation claims from the company.

It has been reported that the leakage of gas from the factory's storage facilities led to the death of more than 2,500 people, while another 50,000 were poisoned.

Winter holidays for schoolchildren are in full swing. Festively decorated New Year trees have been set up in palaces and houses of Young Pioneers, in sport complexes, at schools, and in squares, streets and yards. Parties and performances are arranged for children who are entertained by Father Frost and Snow Maiden.

One of the New Year parties in the Moscow Sokolniki Park. Photo by Sergei Vetrov



New Congress meets in Washington

Washington. The 99th American Congress meets here in its new composition.

On November 6 last year, American voters elected not only a President, but also one-third of the Senate (for one hundred Senators) and all the

435 Representatives. Although Congress has 44 new members, the alignment of forces on Capitol Hill has not changed. The Republicans have retained their majority in the Senate, even though they lost two seats to the Democrats. There are now

53 Republicans against 47 Democrats. With 253 seats against 182, the Democrats are in control of the House of Representatives.

Neither has Congress changed its social composition. Practically every fifth Senator has a property worth over one million dollars. Although the non-Whites make up one-fifth of US population, the new Senate has no Black or Hispanic members, and there are only 20 Blacks in the House of Representatives. There are only 24 female members of Congress, although women account for 53 per cent of the country's population.

FACTS and EVENTS

New Cabinet Ministers of Singapore have been sworn in. The new Prime Minister is Lee Kuan Yew who has held this post over the past twenty-five years. His first Deputy and Defence Minister is Goh Chok Tong.

Venezuela is one of the "youngest" states in the world. According to figures released by the Central Statistics and Information Board of Venezuela, 70 per cent of its population are under 30. Every year, the population of the country increases by 3 per cent, which is higher than the average figure for most Latin American countries. The World Bank says that at present the population of Venezuela stands at more than sixteen million.

Industrial and office workers from Japanese government enterprises have staged a mass demonstration in the Naga district of Tokyo. The demonstrators marched in protest against the Conservative government's course towards a steady rise in military expenditures, rapidly growing taxes and high prices of food and other basic necessities. They chanted, "No to Government Policies Against the People!" and "Cut Down Military Spending!"



Picture culled from the "Sotun-no-ko" newspaper

فان من المصلين

India: new government formed

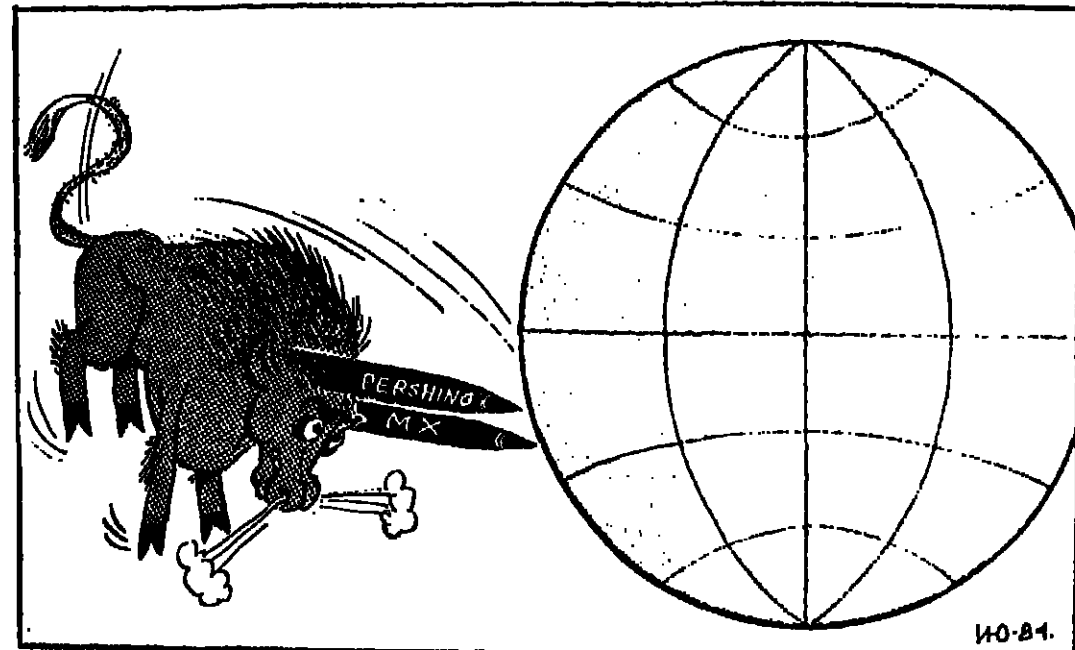
New Delhi. Winning nearly 80 per cent of the parliament seats, the Indian National Congress (I) party has for the seventh time in the history of independent India, won the right to form a national government.

Rajiv Gandhi was sworn in by President Zail Singh as the country's Prime Minister. Later Gandhi announced the composition of his new cabinet so far numbering 38 people. According to "Times of India" the rest of the ministers will be appointed after the elections to the legislative assembly of the states tentatively due this March.

One feature of the Gandhi cabinet is that none of the former ministers is still there. Many young and new faces have emerged both in parliament and in the new cabinet.

CONCLUSIONS OF THE LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES

Cairo. The USA is directly responsible for the aggressive policy of Israel — such a conclusion was made by the general secretariat of the League of Arab States in an economic survey conducted with the help of some Arab funds and organizations. It stresses that only due to American help Tel Aviv is capable of continuing the militarization of its economy and enormous military spending connected with the expansionist course towards neighbouring Arab states. The USA gave Israel in 1984 2,610 million dollars, with 65 per cent of it in military aid, including funds for



Corrida-85.

Drawing by Yuri Ivanov

Put pressure on South Africa—Tutu

Mpumali. As long as the apartheid system exists in South Africa there can be no stability, security and peace, Nobel Prize winner Bishop Desmond Tutu has said at a press conference in Johannesburg. Bloodshed in the country can be averted only

through political, diplomatic and economic pressure on the regime in Pretoria, he emphasized. The international community, Tutu noted, should resort to economic sanctions against South Africa until Pretoria renounces its apartheid policy.

Situation of terror

Buenos Aires. The Pinochet regime intends to extend by another 90 days the state of siege imposed nationwide on November 6, last year, in an attempt to suppress powerful actions of the popular masses against the dictatorship.

The people of Chile have been living in an atmosphere of terror and repression after the seizure of power by the military-fascist clique in 1973. All this time Pinochet has been waging a war against his own people. Torture, arrests at the slightest suspicion, imprisonment without trial are everyday affairs. In recent years over a million Chileans have had to leave the country. The mass media are banned from publishing news on political developments in Chile.

Despite all this, the struggle for restoration of democracy and an end to the bloody dictatorship is gaining momentum.

CURRENCY CRISIS IN THE WEST

Paris. The New Year on the major Western money markets has been marked with another outbreak of "currency fever" caused by a further strengthening of the US dollar. For the first time in history the American dollar has reached 9.22 French francs on the Paris currency exchange market. The pound has dropped to a record low level of 1.14 dollars. For the first time in 12 years, the Deutsche mark sank to 3.17 dollars on the Frankfurt market.

SOMALIA'S CONTRACT WITH SOUTH AFRICA

Paris. Under Washington's tutelage, Pretoria and Mogadishu have concluded a secret agreement granting South Africa the use of military base in the south of Somalia. According to the French press news agency, the leader of the opposition Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia (DFSS), Colonel Abdulhadi Yusuf Ali-mad, says the base is in the town of Chamdo on the coast of the Indian Ocean. The field there is being used by the American forces. The agreement with the Republic of South Africa, Colonel Ali-mad, was signed in Swaziland in May last year. The Somali Defence Minister General, Ali Samatar, who was on a tour of some countries in 1985, Africa.

PEACEFUL ATOMS OF ARGENTINA

Buenos Aires. Argentina is a peaceful nation. It has no nuclear weapons. The first atomic power plant at Bariles in Chubut Province is 700 km north of Buenos Aires and 100 km from the Argentine-Paraguay border.

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FACTS and EVENTS

① The population of 14 countries which today stand 174 million will reach 775 million by the year 2000, says the Kuwaiti newspaper "Seyar".

② According to "The Washington Post" between 1957 and 1982 the Pentagon launched 14 military satellites. Next the Pentagon plans to use the space vehicle to place in a superpowerful satellite to widen the scope of American intelligence in radio detection.

Children and the fight for peace

New York. American schoolgirl Samantha Smith has written a book on her travel to the Soviet Union, which has been published in the USA and Canada. I dedicate this book to all children of the Earth, who believe in the triumph of peace, writes in the foreword the youthful resident of the town of Manchester in the state of Maine. Samantha shares her impressions of the trip to the USSR in the summer of 1983. I was very lucky to have made the trip, as I understood that Soviet people are just like those who live in my hometown.

She had gone to the Soviet Union to find out whether or not Soviet people wanted war. For most Americans have not the slightest idea of that. The kindness and hospitality of Soviet people—adults and children alike—convinced her that Soviet people want to live in peace with other peoples, making strenuous effort to prevent war. After the trip to the USSR, I no longer believe in the so-called "Soviet threat", she claimed. One more very important thing that she realized after her trip is that children can and should contribute to the fight for peace and understanding between the Soviet and American peoples.

Japanese-American trade contradictions

Tokyo. The Japanese-American talks held in Los Angeles between Yasuhiro Nakasone and Ronald Reagan confirmed the insoluble nature of the two countries' trade and economic contradictions, according to Japanese press assessments.

One source of extreme tension for the USA is the fact that

FACTS and EVENTS

① In 1984 the Sandinista People's Army destroyed more than three thousand CIA mercenaries who staged incursions into Nicaraguan territory. This was reported at a press conference in Managua by the republic's Defence Minister Humberto Ortega.

② According to France-Press news agency, heavy fighting between rebel and government forces continues in the town of Zaira. An opposition spokesman in Paris has demanded that Washington powers sending arms and instructors to help the authorities and their interference in the internal affairs of Zaira. The fighting in Zaira province began on November 12.

PEOPLE

It has been announced by the White House that Secretary of State William Clark will resign in the near future. His decision to withdraw from the administration is said to be based on "personal reasons". However, the resignation of W. Clark who has for almost two decades been President Reagan's closest friend goes far beyond "routine" rotation in Washington. It should be regarded as a new evidence of the sharp differences pertaining in the administration. Clark's unexpected resignation will be viewed by the Conservative leaders in the administration as a blow. They expected to push him through the post of the Chief of Staff at the White House so as to be able to exercise special influence on the government's policies.



I was the only adult left in our village when the Somoza men stormed it. These words came from 14-year-old José Luis Chacón who has every reason to call himself a man.

On that memorable day nearly all the people had gone to work on the fields. Left behind were only old men, women and small children, including José, a milliano from the town of Puerto Cabezas who was paying a visit to his parents. It was precisely the moment chosen by the Somoza bandits to attack the defenceless village. But the 14-year-old lad put up a fight, making the bandits flee.

Through this was an unequal battle, the victory over the bandits was not accidental: the people of Nicaragua have learnt not to be afraid of the thugs; the entire nation has risen up in arms against the counter-revolutionaries.

③ José Luis Chacón with his comrades-in-arms: a militia member, María Estefanía and Sandinista people's army officer Roger Rosset Perez.

Science and technology

WE LIVE TO SEE

Weathermen at Warsaw University have attempted to forecast the weather hundreds of years ahead. They fed into a computer data on weather observation throughout decades, as well as data on hot, cold, dry and rainy seasons discovered in old chronicles. The computer announced that 2027, 2138, 2218, 2308 and 2487 will have hot summers, while the years 2001 and 2054 will supposedly have unusually severe winters.

MORE PRECISE THAN INSTRUMENTS

Scientists in Bremen University have discovered that the plant known as spiderwort can surprisingly detect radioactivity more precisely than many costly apparatuses. This humble plant was planted outside a nuclear power project. Observations have shown that if there is radioactivity in area where it grows, the thin hairs on the plant's leaves change their colour. The degree of changes is proportional to the increase of radioactivity in the environment.

OF INTEREST

Alone against three oceans

The second and last stage of a single-handed voyage around the world by the Bulgarian yachtsman Nikolai Yambazov, one time believed dead, has begun in the Australian part of Sydney.

This voyage by the 41-year-old captain from the port of Nagas has two special factors. He himself designed and built his sailing yacht, "The Tangin", which is 11 metres long, 3.5 metres wide and has a small cabin station and a 55 hp engine.

Also, Yambazov himself chose the route which had earlier not been sailed by any yachtsman. Setting off on October 31, 1983 from the Canary Islands in the Atlantic, he headed south. Spurred on by winds and currents, he approached Brazil and then headed east, leaving Africa to the north. Travelling in the Indian Ocean, he crossed the Indian Ocean, and arrived in Australia. After medical treatment in Sydney and repairing his somewhat battered vessel, Yambazov is now bound for the Pacific, towards Cape Horn, at the tip of the South American continent, which is perhaps the most dangerous place in the whole world for sailors. From there he intends to return to the Canary Islands and then sail towards the Bulgarian shores.

He travelled the first stretch of the voyage from the Canaries to Sydney, a distance of nearly 34 thousand kilometres, in four months. The second stage of the journey is expected to be as long.

Scanty book

The Japanese have published a book with recipes for several hundred national cuisines. What makes it unique is that its pages are soaked in some aromatic substances. It is enough to slightly rub the paper to get an appetizing smell of a dish which has its recipe printed on that page.

As none of the passengers who had left those items behind, had applied for their recovery after a period of one year, the longest time permitted to store such things, it was decided to put these things on sale. Among the three hundred items on sale there were quite a few sleeping bags and inflated mattresses, a travelling cover for a motorcycle, a lamp and a big plush bear.

FROM the SOVIET PRESS

THINKING ABOUT EUROPE

Last year, Europe celebrated two awesome dates. Seventy and forty-five years ago respectively conflagrations flared up on our continent, spread throughout the entire planet, and took the lives of millions, writes Mikhail Chernousov in SOVIETSKAYA ROSSIYA.

Why is it that we recall these tragic dates when thinking about Europe today? First of all it is because the Old World, the bluffs in which resulted in world-wide disasters in the past, has again become a highly dangerous region on our planet. The world's two most powerful military groupings are confronting each other in Europe. The situation has considerably worsened after the deployment in Western Europe of new first-strike American, medium-range nuclear missiles targeted at the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. The Pershing-2s and cruise missiles are deployed in keeping with the timetable adopted in Brussels on December 12, 1979. This deployment is being carried out in line with the "Rogers Doctrine" which stakes on sharp increases in NATO's conventional weapons. The West is reactivating the Western European Union (WEU), which, in fact, is an additional prop for NATO.

USA AND ASEAN

Under the aegis of the Washington administration, Veniamin Sharygin writes in PRAVDA, a specialized organization has been set up — the centre for exchange of technology between the USA and ASEAN countries.

President Reagan called the creation of the centre as a critical initiative of the US private sector in bolstering US presence in South-East Asia, and not for nothing. In recent years Washington has shown much interest in ASEAN, which comprises Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, Singapore and Brunei. These nations with a total population of over 250 million have become quite prominent in the US economy, meeting over 90 per cent of US imports of natural rubber, over 70 per cent of tin, 20 per cent of tea and ten per cent of oil. The oil natural resources, cheap manpower and a vast market make South-East Asian nations a profitable target for capital investment, the newspaper points out.

IN THE LIFETIME OF ONE GENERATION

Analysing economic achievements made by the CMEA and EEC countries, B. Ludygin writes in SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA:

Between 1981 and 1984, the industrial output in CMEA member countries, according to preliminary statistics, rose by 13 per cent, whereas in the EEC countries, the overall industrial growth practically stood at the zero level. All this influences the volume of production if we compare the CMEA and the EEC countries by the types of output which characterizes the industrial power of modern society, such as generating electricity and smelting steel. We shall see that in the lifetime of one generation the CMEA countries have not only overcome the backwardness they inherited from capitalism, but have also left one of the main bastions of this system far behind.

AFRICA: THE 'HOT REGION' OF THE PLANET

The African continent continues to be the "hot region" of the planet, writes T. Deutscher in KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA. More than 80 conflicts have broken out involving African states over the past two decades, many of which developed into armed clashes. There is no need to prove, stresses the author, that such crises weaken Africa politically and economically.

The preservation of such pain spots in Africa is explained not only by the action of factors inherited by its countries from colonialism. They are largely the result of the policy of imperialism trying to retain the continent at all costs in the orbit of the capitalist system, to gain influence over or weaken the national liberation forces.

Here, on the African continent, too, the USA is not original in using as a propaganda smoke screen the so-called "Soviet threat". By means of such a truly internationalist Washington is "reviving a danger" to America's "vital interests" in Angola, Zaire, Chad, Western Sahara, in the Horn of Africa and Southern Africa.

Forgetful passengers

An unusual sale was arranged some time ago in one of the hotels in Prague where one could buy things left behind in railway stations or on trains in the Central Bohemian region of Czechoslovakia.

As none of the passengers who had left those items behind, had applied for their recovery after a period of one year, the longest time permitted to store such things, it was decided to put these things on sale. Among the three hundred items on sale there were quite a few sleeping bags and inflated mattresses, a travelling cover for a motorcycle, a lamp and a big plush bear.

VIEWPOINT

'Gifts of the Danaans'

US private capital investment in developing nations amounted to over 230 billion dollars by the end of 1983. To believe Washington officials, this is "prosperity" offered the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America by the United States.

But what do these "aided" nations think on the score of the Indian newspaper "Patriot", for instance, opines that US capital investors should be shunned like "Danaans proffering gifts".

Indians have ample reason for such a contention after the recent disaster in the town of Bhopal termed "chemical Hiroshima" by the French "Paris-Match" newspaper in which 2,500 people died and over 50,000 were severely poisoned by highly toxic gases through the fault of the US transnational, Union Carbide corporation.

Investigation proved beyond doubt that the tragedy was caused by the desire for super-profits — annually the India-based plants of this corporation bring it 200 million dollars in profits. It was for the sake of these profits that the plant own-

ers used outmoded equipment and violated safety and environmental protection regulations. It also turned out that they simply neglected warnings of the impending disaster. Even the US "Fortune" magazine called Union Carbide a profit-obsessed monster.

For Union Carbide Indian workers were not only a source of profits but also guinea pigs of sorts. The corporation has been a Penlagon contractor for many years, developing at the Bhopal plant on its orders, and in strict secrecy, new chemicals and testing them in the tropics. This is also confirmed by the fact that now NATO headquarters has secretly set up a special group which studies the lethal effects of the toxic gas used at the plant.

The events in Bhopal are by no means an exception to the practice of transnationals. The tragedy in India has killed a bell for specialists and the public in other countries, primarily in Asia, to sit up and firmly scrutinize their operations. For instance, it has also come to

light that in Thailand workers employed by foreign plants producing chemicals are in constant danger, and that for many years now the country has served as a major market for inferior products of Western chemical concerns.

In ASEAN countries there are many plants fully or partly controlled by foreign capital. What accounts for this monopolistic drive? According to "Metro Manila Times", in the Philippines US monopolies may in their profit drive, arbitrarily fix wages of local workers and increase the duration of the workday, thus overtly violating national labour legislation. International Labour Organization officials inspected several plants run by foreign capital in South-East Asia which produce semiconductors. This report notes that workers at these plants, mostly young women aged between 16 and 23, are mercilessly exploited and receive meagre wages.

Many of the foreign plants in Malaysia, said M. Khor, one of the heads of a consumer asso-

Igor DANILIN



ciation in the state of Penang, would be forbidden to operate in the USA or other developed capitalist nations due to their neglect of safety and environmental protection regulations. These facts adequately show the real nature of the activities of transnational corporations in South-East Asian countries, the leaders of which hoped to achieve economic progress through Western assistance. Now they have become increasingly convinced not just of the illusory nature of this expectation but also see the danger of offering their territories for operation by foreign wileful-dealers. Such an "open door" policy first of all benefits American, Japanese and West German monopolies squeezing four to five dollars of profit on every dollar invested in the "third world". Besides, for the transnationals developing nations are nothing more than a testing range for everything dangerous to deal with at home.

Terrorist visits America

Washington. Jerronah Clark, leader of the Central grouping of Angolan counter-revolutionaries, has shown in the American capital, met Chester Crocker, Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, and other high-ranking officials from the American administration.

The holding of these talks has continued by the chief spokesman for the State Department, Robert Bruce, who declared that the officials of American administration intended to meet, from time to time, with representatives of UNITA. However, he categorically refused to disclose details of the Chitunda's visit. Observers believe that Clark intends to seek for American aid to UNITA, particularly in modern weapons. American military magazine "Covert Action", notes despite the ban previously imposed by the US Congress, Central Intelligence Agency resumed military and financial aid to the anti-government groupings in Angola right at the advent of the Reagan administration to power. "Washington Post" writes of the struggle fought by UNITA to overthrow the Government of Angola, enjoys sympathy among the leaders of the present administration.

Round the Soviet Union

● URBAN DRAINAGE FLOWS INTO THE OKA, A RIVER IN THE CENTRE OF THE EUROPEAN PART OF THE USSR, ONLY IN PURE STATE AFTER MAJOR RECONSTRUCTION AND EXPANSION OF A BIOLOGICAL PURIFICATION STATION NOW WORKING AT FULL CAPACITY. Today more than 120 thousand cubic metres of drainage or four times as much as previously, goes through its mechanical and biological filters. Laboratories of the station have the most up-to-date equipment, which makes it possible not only to monitor the chemical composition of the water, but also to precisely and quickly spot the source of pollution.

● THE KALININ MEMORIAL HOUSE-MUSEUM OF JUCAS GRUDIS, AN OUTSTANDING COMPOSER AND PIONEER OF PROFESSIONAL MUSIC IN THE LITHUANIA (A BALTIC REPUBLIC), HAS OPENED ITS DOORS TO FIRST VISITORS. The inauguration of the memorial has been timed to coincide with the 100th anniversary of the birth of a Lithuanian Conservatoire founding member, author of the first national ballets and instrumental pieces which are now a treasure-trove of Soviet music.

● PRODUCTION OF POWERFUL MACHINE TOOLS FOR MAKING LARGE-SIZE PARTS HAS BEEN STARTED AT THE KRAMATORSK (UKRAINE) MACHINE-TOOL MANUFACTURING ASSOCIATION. After substituting one-piece pig iron frame with a welded steel structure, the weight of the aggregate has decreased by 66 tonnes. Switching to a comprehensive programme for material saving and rational use of raw material resources, staff members of the association have saved more than two thousand tonnes of ferrous and non-ferrous metals since the beginning of the year.

● A MARINE SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS STATION HAS BEEN PUT INTO OPERATION NEAR ODESSA, A PORT ON THE BLACK SEA. It will serve both Soviet and foreign ships operating in the Indian and Atlantic oceans and which have special transceivers to interact with the system. It is part of the INMARSAT system intended to improve the performance and safety of ships in the sea.



Ernst Muldashev. ● An operation is going on. Among the microsurgical instruments are a special microscope, needles, a nylon thread no thicker than the human hair, and conserved grafts. Photos by Alexander Gushchin

MICROSURGEON'S NEW METHOD

Microsurgeon Ernst Muldashev of Ufa (the capital of the Bashkir Autonomous Republic) restores eyesight. To him belongs the idea of using in eyesight defect operations not only tissues taken from patients themselves, as is usually the case, but also transplanting tissues from other people. As such graft, he suggested the use of conserved foetal cells which possess good biological compatibility with tissues of an alien organism.

The results of operations carried out by the

surgeon surpassed every expectation. After one year, the transplanted part is replaced with tissue which in its structure hardly differs from the surrounding tissue.

Here is one of the results. A man who was almost blind (his eyesight sharpness was 0.001 and his cornea had become rather dim), has had his sight restored to 0.5.

Muldashev's method won the support of specialists. A department for conservation of tissue is being set up at the Ufa city hospital.

Underground water for Ustyurt pastures

A key to the rich pastures of the Ustyurt tableland in Turkmenia. This is how people call the wells bored there to irrigate 100 thousand hectares of what only recently was a desert land. The tenth and the last borehole completes a major irrigation system.

Over twenty underground seas discovered in the republic are all used to irrigate pastures and farmland.

An underground reservoir at Yashkhan with a capacity of a hundred cubic kilometres of fresh water plus a major reservoir at the foothills of Kopet-

dag and the southern slope of the Greater Balkhan, etc., are made available to sheep breeders.

A total of over 15 hundred wells are now operating in Turkmenia, most of which are used to irrigate deserts.

NEW MODEL FROM LADA MOTORWORKS

A traditional battle of chassis engineers is being waged in the Lada Motorworks. The new model of the Lada 1600 cc engine, which is being developed, will be ready in 1983. It will have a power of 110 hp and a torque of 16.5 kg-m. The new engine will be installed in the Lada 1600 cc car, which is being developed. The new engine will be installed in the Lada 1600 cc car, which is being developed. The new engine will be installed in the Lada 1600 cc car, which is being developed.

It has been received by many prominent scientists and writers of several countries, including K. Lorenz (Austria) and Soviet scientists A. I. Operin and S. P. Kapitsa.

UNESCO prize to Soviet scientist

The International UNESCO Kaluga Prize has been awarded to I. V. Petrovich-Sokolov, a Soviet scientist, Chairman of the Central Board of the All-Union Society of Book Lovers, and Y. Coppens, a French paleontologist who is also Director of the National Natural History Museum in Paris. The Kaluga Prize is awarded to people of science and culture for outstanding activities in popularization of scientific knowledge.

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How to live to be a hundred

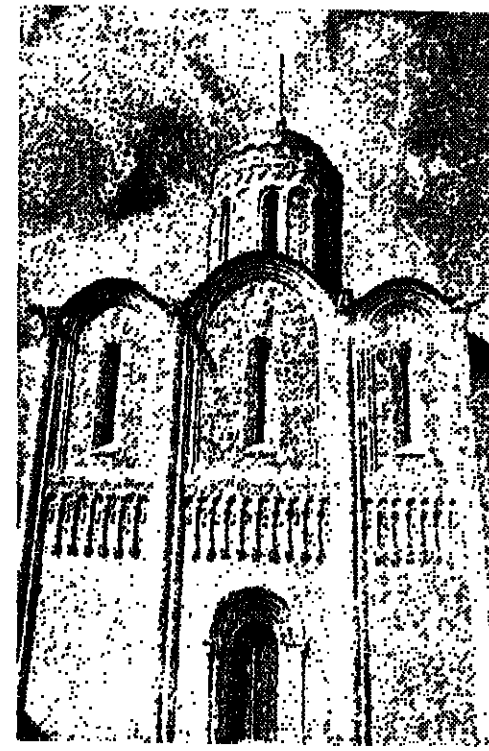
Gymnastics has become the main pastime among the visitors of the Health Zone in Baku, an outpatient resort complex in the centre of the Azerbaijan capital. They not only go in for their pastime in the picturesque park where the zone is located, but also out in the sea.

An hour-and-a-half boating trip in the Caspian can be both pleasant and useful if it is filled with a gymnastic programme, doctors in Baku believe. They have devised a special complex of breathing exercises which are made by passengers of a pleasure boat.

The sea air which contains much bromine, iodine and various microelements has a favourable effect on the nervous system, intensifying the patients'

Places to visit

VLADIMIR - A GEM IN THE GOLDEN RING OF RUSSIA



The city was established in 1108, in the north-eastern area of Kievian Rus, by Prince Vladimir the Monomach, hence the name. It reached its climax in the late 12th century under Vladimir's grandson Andrei Bogolyubsky.

Prince Andrei started by fortifying the city's defences. The city was surrounded with a broad ditch and a bank almost ten metres high with its ridge crowned by a log wall.

In 1164 the city acquired its Golden Gate which served as the main gateway to the city. The structure has survived to this day. Of white stone and as high as a seven-storey building, the gate has a 14-metre arch cut through it. One of the finest survivals of 12-century European defensive architecture, it is peculiar in that it has a defensive function and serves as the main entrance to the city. Originally the gate was clad with gilded copper sheets from which it acquired its name.

The city is rich with other ancient architecture. These include the Dormition Cathedral, the main church of the principality after which many other churches in Russia were styled. It was lavishly decorated by Andrei Rublev. St. Dmitry Cathedral (in the photo) is called a fairy tale in stone: it is richly embellished by carvings.

Children perform in adult theatre

"All parts in the opera are performed solely by children", reads the billboard of the Nizhny Novgorod Opera and Ballet Theatre in Uzbekistan announcing the premiere of Mozart's opera "The Magic Flute". Involving primarily and mainly kids from the children's studio "Solnyshko" (Sun).

The studio members have already staged fairy-tale operas, such as "The Golden Key", "The Snow White", "Dzhanel". The children and their instructors - professional singers - act on the small stage of the Theatre which accommodates 250 spectators and is also a place for rehearsals. The Nizhny Novgorod children's company has friendly ties with the Moscow Children's Musical company and their head, Natalya Seta. They often come to Moscow to attend performances by this famous company and also to show their own.

The studio members plan to stage another opera by Mozart, "Bastien and Bastienne" which will have its first-night performance on the Nizhny Novgorod stage with the participation of children.

Science and technology

TRANSFERS OF FOIL

Dyrolorussian scientists have developed a foil based on various wax modifications which replace drawings made in "gold" on books, folders and other items through the method of transfers.

Unlike the present ones, the new material sticks well to calico, plastic, wood and other surfaces. Another of its important advantages is that it can be made on automated process lines. Not tearing, it is simultaneously elastic, brittle, viscous and firm, and easy and hard to melt. The needed property, which is the important thing of the new material, is set only at a definite temperature or in the presence of certain chemicals.

QUALITY, COST-SAVING WEAVING OF CLOTH AND FABRICS OF ALL KINDS: COTTON, WOOL, WOOLLEN, SILK, LINEN

AUTOMATIC LOOM WITH WEFT MICRO-INSERTER 578 SERIES

Main shaft rpm to 300
Weaving width, cm 120, 220, 250, 280, 330, 360, 390
Weft color change mechanism - four colors
Shed control: tappet motion 18 heads dobbie 14/18 heads
Yarn handled, No. 6 to 200

TECHMASHEXPORT



VIEWPOINT

RUSSKY YAZYK PUBLISHERS: scope of activities

Today, more than twenty million people throughout the world study Russian. Each year, thousands of foreign citizens come to this country as students, teachers and specialists in the Russian language. It was for the benefit of all those who study Russian at home, whether in Europe, Asia, Africa or America that the Russky Yazyk publishing house was set up ten years ago in Moscow.

Russky Yazyk Publishers director, Vladimir NAZAROV, discusses the house's activities.

Today, Russky Yazyk is one of the biggest publishers in this country. Every year, its educational literature comes out in thirty foreign languages with a circulation of ten million copies or more. These books are written for people of different age groups and occupations.

One of the most popular publications of our firm is "Russian for Everybody" issued in 17 languages in nearly 800 thousand copies.

Apart from educational books, we produce works by Russian writers such as Pushkin, Lermontov, Leo Tolstoy, Dostoyevsky, Chekhov and Soviet authors like Gorky, Sholokhov, Pasternak, Shukshin, Aйтmatov, Yevgenyev, Yevgenyev.

I believe that the reason for the rapidly growing popularity of our publications and the great demand they enjoy is that they are written not only by specialists from the Moscow Institute of Russian Language named after Pushkin and the staff members of our house, but also by teachers of Russian from those countries for which our books are written.

Together with colleagues from Mongolia, Vietnam and Cuba we have prepared a number of school textbooks in Russian.

As a result of our cooperation with the Oxford University Press (OUP) we have published A. S. Hornby's dictionary for students of English, one of the most popular explanatory English dictionaries abroad.

By the way our cooperation with the OUP continues. Last year, our British colleagues reviewed a Russian-English dictionary published by our firm, while we edited an English-Russian dictionary for the OUP.

Cooperating with each other, Russian and American specialists have prepared a set of textbooks entitled "Russian Language, Stage One" for beginners students of Russian at American colleges and universities. One of the authors is Vice-President of the International Association of Teachers of Russian Language and Literature (MAPRL) Dan Davidson. At the moment we are preparing for publication "Russian Language, Stage Two" authored by Robert Baker of the United States.

For quite a long time there has been a considerable interest in this country in Indian culture and languages. So, for the first time, we have issued a Russian-Indian conversational phrase book, a Hindi-Russian phrase book has also come out of the press in India.

Our publishing house is actively cooperating with the MAPRL Association. We take part in all the international meetings of Russian teachers from different parts of the world. We attend MAPRL's congresses, too. To us this is a splendid opportunity to gain expert assessments of our educational publications, critical remarks and specific proposals. This will help us in the future to improve the educational literature published by our house.

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

COMPUTER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR THE CAPITAL

VECHERNYAYA MOSKVA writes that the second stage of a management information system, the Moskva, is nearing completion. No other town in the world boasts of a similar thing. The necessity of such a system was dictated by life itself. Moscow now has a population of 8.5 million, with the people employed at various factories, construction sites, and agencies. At their service are over 10,000 shops, 8,000 public catering facilities, more than 1,200 secondary schools, two hundred odd higher and technical schools, plus polytechnics, hospitals, etc.

All this should be smoothly managed, and a computer management system can foster this. The system incorporates four major components: the town forming base, population and labour resources, services, and the environment. A number of lower-level computer systems have already been in operation for several years, performing these functions in the Construction, Housing, Transport, Communal Services, Trade, and Health Services complexes. The computer systems expeditiously retrieve expenses. The Moskvavolna system alone, which is a subsystem of the Transport complex, has made it possible to reduce transportation costs, idle time, and has considerably enhanced overall efficiency.

AEROFLOT HORIZONS

Last year Aeroflot conveyed 112 million passengers and 3 million tonnes of freight and mail, writes MOSKVA YAZA PRAVDA. Over 103 million hectares were sprayed.

Aeroflot service routes exceed one million kilometres.

ties, uniting in a single network 3,000 towns in the USSR as well as 120 capitals and major cities abroad. In addition to passenger traffic, Aeroflot helicopters and planes are used for industrial, agricultural, communications and medical purposes, for building transmission lines, gas and oil pipelines in the harsh conditions of the North and the Far East.

Of the hundred jobs which Aeroflot undertakes, agricultural services are the most important. In 1985, the final year of the 11th five-year plan, Aeroflot expects to carry 111 million passengers and over 3 million tonnes of cargo and mail. It will also spray some 100 million hectares of land from the air.

EXPEDITION EXTREMUM

Floods, bush fire, stalling of hurricanes may destroy stocks of food of geological teams, mountain climbers, Polar researchers, meteorologists at a remote station or at any self-operating group, NEDBYA writes. So what then? The Moscow Tourist Club decided to carry out an expedition in order to work out recommendations for those who will find themselves in distress. The people involved in the expedition were to answer such questions as the maximum possible food on a person without food and the length of time required for such people to recover.

The first such experiment took place in 1981 when people without food managed to cover 400 kilometres in 14 days via forests and marshes.

The second experiment, Extremum-84, involved acacia which flowed along the Belaya River in the North. The seven spent 15 days without food, drinking only water. They roved for 5 to 8 hours a day. The group involved people from 17 to 57 years of age with different travelling backgrounds.

The experience thus gained will enhance the training of highly skilled tourist instructors, rescue teams and mountaineers.

CAN WE COUNTER STRESS?

Modern fast life imposes an increasing number of requirements on people, causing constant emotional strains or stresses. In turn chronic conditions of stress lead to heart attacks, ulcers and neuroses. Can there be any way out of this seemingly hopeless situation? Yes, there is. Useful experience has been gained in preparing people to withstand chronic stress, writes the newspaper SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA.

Take the cosmonauts who work for long spells of time in conditions such as overburdening, weightlessness, long periods of isolation and get confined to space stations. These have been so far inevitable and unavoidable constraints. Medical and psychological research into stress carried out under space programmes has enabled scientists to come to very important conclusions. First of all, the resources from which the human body replenishes the reserves of its adaptation energy are numerous and diverse. The organism itself renews the resources of its strength (not only physical, but also psychological, i.e., working overloads). On the contrary, the stress reduces the power of resistance to stress. It should be noted that only the work one enjoys has a positive influence, and not just any work. A meaningless occupation one dislikes serves as a factor conducive to stress.

In order not to stand in the way of one's own organism, one must remember quite a few things. It is very important to remember about the need for an emotional discharge, for instance. One will also be advised to remember that it is necessary to maintain a not readiness for change and to score even small, but daily victories over the ungovernable, lazy self, stress the paper.

ENTERTAINMENT

Theatre, Cinema and TV Stars

ALISA FREINDLIKH



The story of Cinderella is one of the most living legends in the cinema. The story of how an unloved, but talented and hard-working stepdaughter suddenly turned into a beautiful princess recurs in cinema with unusual persistence.

The film career of Alisa Freindlikh of the Leningrad Gorky Bolshoi Drama Theatre is, perhaps, a most typical version of this story.

As a young actress who had just taken to the stage, she immediately attracted universal attention. The striking sincerity and spontaneity of her heroines were touching and sympathetic.

Then came real success. Eliza Doolittle in Bernard Shaw's "Pygmalion", Lika in Arbusov's "My Poor Marat", Helena in "The Warsaw Tune" by Zaria, and Shakespearean Juliet are parts any actress dreams about. At that time Freindlikh started

receiving invitations to act in films. But she never went beyond auditions. She was praised by art councils, but the parts went to other actresses. It was all hard luck. The feeling of dignity rebelled in her, making her become resolved never again to accept any invitations. However, her professional pride demanded that she should prove her worth.

It seemed that each of the rare appearances Alisa made on the screen could convince any sceptic that she was good.

However, discouraging words kept coming: "The cinema does not seem to be her calling" and film appearances became isolated instances in her acting career.

All this changed as if by magic when Eldar Ryazanov invited her to play the main part of Kaluzhina in the film "Office Romance".

Kaluzhina is not a woman, but a shift on one. Her gift is that of an infatigable man on the march,

and her manners are like a sergeant's drill. The tone of her voice, her hairstyle and clothes are an outrage.

All of a sudden, this martinet turns into a beautiful creature. From an unfeeling being in ugly spectacles she transforms into a shy, tender-hearted fairy with a beaming smile. There is so much charm, so much femininity, and purely female unpredictability in her actions and words.

After that film, the previously unfeeling cinema embraced Alisa Freindlikh as if pleading to be forgiven for what it had been doing to her. It was magnanimously forgiven.

Today, Alisa Freindlikh receives many different invitations from film directors. Ryazanov invited her to play in the "Cruel Romance", Chukhrai — in "The Canary Cage", and Khudyakov — "The Success". She knows no limitations of genre—playing in comedy and drama, fable and vaudeville with equal ease. Music, however, takes a special place in her life.

Many actresses can sing and dance on the stage, and on the film set. Freindlikh's sense of music is not merely another facet of her talent. It is a special state of her soul and an inalienable quality of her artistic nature. The actress has brought to perfection the plasticity of voice and body. She sings and moves as easily and naturally as she breathes.

Freindlikh's heroines — the prim queens, modern women, forerunners, beauties, and plain girls — all stem from that magnificent talent and that harmonious chaos which is called the mystery of a woman's soul. One can endlessly unravel it. As the shroud of mystery seems to open one immediately faces another secret. Alisa Freindlikh has a mastery to set riddles. Could this, perhaps, be the secret of her charm and her talent? Perhaps, this secret conceals more and more...

Yuri PAVLOV

Loyalty to 'Kalevala'

This opening to February 14 of an exhibition by artist Tatyana Yula looked more like the start of a folkloric festival than an art show. Paintings were "Kalevala" tunes, and Kuchan folk songs by a folk ensemble at the Leningrad department of Petrozavodsk University.

For over 20 years she has worked on illustrations to Kalevala.

Reviver of ballet treasures

At the Mariinsky Palace Theatre a ballet party has been thrown in honour of choreographer Pyotr Gusev to mark his 80th birthday.

As a bright classical dancer and soloist at the Bolshoi and later choreographer and teacher, Gusev stood at the source of the Soviet ballet art.

A connoisseur of ancient choreography, his work is very important for future generations. He revives on the stages of Soviet theatre and abroad ballets of classical heritage, retaining the authors' choreographic text.

As part of the performance dedicated to Pyotr Gusev, ballet soloists of the Bolshoi performed two masterpieces of ancient classical choreography carefully brought back to life by Gusev.



● A scene from "Nevada in the Fisherman" Nina Semirnova as Nevada



● After the performance, Pyotr Gusev with Nina Semirnova and Lyudmila Semirnova. Photos by Georgi Solovye

BUSINESS

VOEST-ALPINE DISCUSSES MAJOR PROJECT

Voest-Alpine is discussing with the USSR Ministry of the Timber, Pulp and Paper and Wood-Working Industry and the foreign trade association of Promyshlennost the possibility of participating in a big viscose cellulose project in the Volga area capable of producing 200 thousand tonnes of the product a year. This was disclosed by Adam Kriev, Vice President of Voest-Alpine, in an MNI correspondent. In addition to cellulose such byproducts as turpentine

(10,000 tonnes a year) will also be produced. Low-grade wood (aspen and birch) will be used as a source material. There is no such factory in the world working on low grade wood, the vice president pointed out. In addition to the industrial facility Voest-Alpine has designed a project of a factory settlement for 6,000 inhabitants with an expansion capability to accommodate 15,000 people.

Voest-Alpine has a long-standing record of coopera-

tion with Soviet organizations. Among the largest projects are the converter production at the Novolipetsk metal combine for which the company provided equipment, documentation and assembly services, and a factory capable of producing six million glass frames a year. In November a metallurgical combine at Zlobin (Byelorussia) was put into operation three months ahead of schedule. It was built jointly with Italian Danil.

Contacts and contracts

● Soviet Sudimport and Polish Centromor have signed major contracts to build for the USSR 25 advanced ships intended for serving off-shore drilling platforms. Four ships for shell prospecting will be built at the Wiala shipyards in Gdansk.

● A contract for the construction of a new section of a major 250-kilometre main gas pipeline, USSR-Finland, was recently signed at the office of the State Committee of the USSR for Foreign Economic Relations. The construction of this project is outlined in a long-term programme for developing and extending trade, economic, industrial, scientific and technological cooperation between the two countries. On behalf of the USSR, the All-Union Association Intelektpromexport will see to the fulfilment of the contract obligations, while the joint-stock company Nestle will do the same for Finland.

● A protocol has been signed in Moscow on trade turnover between the USSR and the People's Republic of Bulgaria for 1985. The estimated volume of trade will top 12,000,000,000 rubles, which is an increase of 6 per cent over the last year. Bulgaria continues to hold one of the leading places in USSR foreign trade. The USSR remains Bulgaria's chief partner in trade. There will be further specialization and cooperation in production, chiefly in machine-building in 1985.

The USSR will supply Bulgaria with various machines, equipment, basic raw and other materials. Bulgarian deliveries to the Soviet Union will considerably involve machinery, various equipment, consumer goods, raw materials and chemicals.

SECURITY TECHNOLOGY FROM FINLAND

An exhibition, "Security Technology" sponsored by the Union for Foreign Trade of Finland, was recently held at the Finnish-Soviet Chamber of Commerce. On display were audio and visual alarms for emergency and special service cars, tunnels for evacuating people from burning buildings, fireproof doors, bullet-proof jackets, metal searchers and other equipment. Eight Finnish companies took part, and a symposium was arranged.

Several companies have previous record of business with Soviet organizations. D. Klimm, for example, is assembling an intrusion control system at the Hermitage Museum based on a Soviet computer. Saipos has delivered a large batch of fireproof doors for hotels, industrial areas and the Vostochny-Leningrad gas pipeline. Saira has sold several hundred audio and visual alarms for special cars. Aspo has delivered several work-time monitoring systems.

L'OREAL SCENTS TO BE PRODUCED IN MOSCOW

The French firm L'Oréal recently showed its products at the Moscow office of the Franco-Soviet Chamber of Commerce. They included several hundred items of perfumery and cosmetics, the firm's traditional products.

Mutually beneficial business ties between L'Oréal and Soviet organizations have been developing successfully for more than 10 years. Michel Thomas, L'Oréal's general director, told an MNI correspondent. The co-

operation goes beyond the framework of purely trade relations, he said. Moscow and L'Oréal (Paris) factories use some materials of the firm to produce face creams, cream-powders (3 shades), Tatyana shampoo-dyes (6 shades), eau de toilette and hair sprays. Over 20 million packaged items were produced last year. An agreement has been reached in Moscow to commence joint production of perfumes as from 1985.

FACTS and EVENTS

Ballets. The Bolshoi Ballet company is now on tour in Kalman-du (Nepal). For the first time citizens of the capital of this mountainous kingdom have had the opportunity to see the art of this world-famous company led by the Bolshoi Chief Choreographer Yuri Grigorovich.

Exhibitions. An exhibition "Our Leningrad" now open in the Central Exhibition Hall of the city depicts Leningrad's entire 280-year history. On display are over 1,500 paintings, items of sculpture, graphic sheets, items of decorative and applied art as well as theatre settings and portraits.

Moscow artists who are war veterans dedicated their paintings to the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's Victory in the Great Patriotic War. On display are still lifes, landscapes, portraits, genre paintings, as well as graphic sheets and linocuts. Their authors are professional artists who teach drawing and painting at fine arts studios and in secondary schools in Moscow.

● Konstantin Shulitsky, "Sashenka on the Veranda".

'The Queen of Spades' reproduced in Leningrad

Tchaikovsky's opera, "The Queen of Spades", has returned to the stage from where, nearly one hundred years ago, it started its triumphant march from one theatre to another. The masterpiece of the Russian musical classic has been reproduced at the Kirov Opera and Ballet Theatre in Leningrad by its chief conductor Yuri Temirkanov.

I am convinced that the modernity of classical pieces con-

stantly not in the conventional character of new productions, but in precise interpretation of the meaning and spirit of classical operas and ballets, says Temirkanov. This is what guided us in the new production of "The Queen of Spades". Careful treatment of the genius of Russian art has been and remains the basic element of all our artistic quests.



WHAT'S ON?

January 5-7

THEATRES

Kremlov Palace of Congresses (Kremlov), 5-7 — New Year performances for children.

Bolshoi Theatre (Sverdlov Sq.), 5-7 — Rusky-Korsakov, "The Legend of the Invisible City of Kitezh" (opera), 6 (mat) — Molchanov, "The Dawns Here Are Quiet" (opera), 6 (eve) — Glazunov, "Raymonda" (ballet).

Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Musical Theatre (17 Pushkinskaya St.), 5 (mat) — Vainberg, "The Golden Key" (ballet); 5 (eve) — Tchaikovsky, "The Queen of Spades" (opera), 6 (mat) — Morozov, "Doctor Doolittle" (ballet); 6 (eve) — Rimsky-Korsakov, "May Night" (opera), 7 (mat) — Tchaikovsky, "Eugene Onegin" (opera); 7 (eve) — Pugn, Ollere, Vasilenko, "Bismarck" (ballet).

Operetta Theatre (8 Pushkinskaya St.), 5 (mat) — Ziv, "Seven Little Soldiers"; 5 (eve) — Strauss, "Long Live Waltz"; 6 (mat, all) — Gladkov, "Khottabych"; 7 (mat, all) — Follman, "An Old Comedy"; 7 (eve) — Lehar, "The Merry Widow". Chamber Musical Theatre (71

FILMS

Love and Pigeons (Moscow Studios, USSR).

A lyrical comedy about love and faithfulness. Film director is Vladimir Maslov known for his "Moscow Does Not Believe in Tears".

Cinema: "Mir" (11 Tsvetnaya St.), "Kino" (11 Tsvetnaya St.), "Kino" (11 Tsvetnaya St.).

The full-length cartoon based on the Christian Andersen's tale, "The Shepherd and the Chinese Sheep". Cinema: "Barrikady" (21 Rikadnaya St.), Metro Barrikady.

EXHIBITIONS

Central Artists Club (10 Vokzalnaya St.). An exhibition of Soviet Moldavia. 600 paintings, graphic, items of sculpture, design.

and folk art, theatre settings. Daily, except Monday, 11 a.m. till 8 p.m. Metro Park Kultury, trolleybuses B and 10.

CONCERT HALLS

Central Concert Hall (1 Moskovskaya Embankment, at the Rossiya Hotel), 5-7 — "Carnival, Carnival, Carnival...". A New Year concert programme.

Leningrad Central Stadium, Palace of Sport (Luzhniki), 5, 6, 7 — "The New Year Fantasy", a concert programme in two parts.

The last part features Iosif Kobzon and "All Stars" show on ice. The Sinyaya Ptitsa (Blue Bird) pop group performs in the 2nd part of the programme.

WEATHER

January 5-7

In Moscow, city and region, snow will stop but temperature will drop to 20°-25° at night and to 15°, 20° during the day.

TRANSPORT HOURS

Metro 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. Fare 5 kopeks. Trolleybuses 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. Fare 4 kopeks. Buses 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. Fare 3 kopeks. Trams 5.30 a.m. to 1.30 a.m. Fare 3 kopeks. Taxi 24-hour service. Twenty kopeks on the meter to begin, plus 20 kopeks per kilometre. Ordering a cab 24-hour service telephone 223-00-00. Communal cabs (over 40 routes in the city) 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Fare 15 kopeks.

State Bank of the USSR

Currency	Quotations as of January 1, 1985	French franc	100	9.84
Austrian schilling	100	100	27.71	
Canadian dollar	100	1,000	6.83	
English pound	100	1,000	6.59	
sterling	100	10,000	4.48	
Finnish markka	100	1,000	3.48	
	100	1,000	5.63	
	100	100	0.70	
	100	100	0.70	

GOLDEN JUBILEE OF AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY

On the 50th anniversary of the agreement on cooperation signed between American Express Company and Intourist, William C. Fisher, its Vice-President and head of the Moscow office of that company, granted an interview to MNI.

Q: American Express is a company that combines financial, insurance, tourist and other functions. What does it gain from cooperation with its Soviet partners?

A: Our mutually advantageous contacts with the USSR also serve another important purpose: tourist exchanges which ultimately help expand contacts between people from different countries, and this undoubtedly leads to better understanding. It is our client, the tourist, who travels to the USSR to gain better knowledge about a country previously unknown to him. He is helped by our guides who are highly qualified and

PEOPLE, EVENTS, FACTS

MEZHHDUNARODNAYA KNIGA

Read Soviet newspapers and magazines for a better knowledge of this country!



V/O Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga's export list covers more than 5,000 titles. The following periodicals appear in various foreign languages: magazines "Soviet Union", "Soviet Woman", "Spunk", "Travel to the USSR", "Soviet Literature", "International Affairs", "New Times", "20th Century and Peace", "Far Eastern Affairs", "Ukraine", "Soviet Military Review", "Socialism: Theory and Practice", "Social Sciences", "Socialism: Principles, Practice and Perspectives", "Latin America", "Culture and Life", "Soviet Film", "Sport in the USSR", "Foreign Trade", "Asia and Africa Today", newspaper "Moscow News", "Moscow News Information" and "News From Ukraine".

Major events of political and general importance, the achievements of science, technology and culture, sports news — are typical subjects highlighted by Soviet periodicals. Subscribe to Soviet newspapers and magazines through the nearest firm or organization doing business with Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga.

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Intourist news

our contacts will expand. Our company greatly contributes to this.

Q: What are you expecting this year that has just come and how do you assess your operations for the year that has just gone?

A: Despite the reduced number of trips to the USSR at the beginning of the 80s the situation is gradually improving. The number of clients grew in 1984 and we expect that it will rise considerably this year. We believe that the number of Soviet tourists and businessmen visiting the USA will also increase. In fact, the American Express sponsors the reception of groups and individuals from the USSR, helps them in the registration of visas, arranges tours round the country and so on. Our company is not the only partner of Intourist in the USA but we are proud of being the only company in this sphere to have its permanent representation in Moscow.

Q: Who enjoys the services of the American Express?

A: Our company services more than 130 countries, therefore contacts with the USSR are not confined to the United States only. There are many clients among businessmen from Western Europe, India and other countries who travel to the USSR. By the way, the activity of the European market has been growing more lively of late, when the number of trips from the USA has increased. But we are optimistic that Soviet